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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"Fuels Reduction Activity Resumes in the Hayes & Waddell Creek Area"

Hamilton, Montana, September 11, 2007 — Chuck Oliver, District Ranger on the Darby Ranger District, Bitterroot National Forest, would like to alert forest users in the Waddell Creek and Como Lake areas that fuel reduction and timber harvest activities will resume in September on the Waddell Creek portion of the Hayes Creek Fuels Reduction Stewardship Project.

Work was delayed during the month of August by the need for equipment on fire suppression assignments. Because of the delays there is a possibility that completion of the Hayes Creek part of the project around the Coyote Coulee Trailhead and Trail 127 may not be completed until the summer of 2008.

Heavy equipment will be working in Section 5, 7 and 8, T3N, R21W along Forest Road 550A through the month of September and October. Roads may be temporarily blocked by equipment for up to 15 minutes at a time. Area closures and road closures are not planned for the Waddell area at this time.

The public is encouraged to drive with caution in the area and expect to meet log trucks on Forest Roads 550 and 550A in the Waddell Creek and Como Lake areas through September and October.

For more information contact Pat McKinnon or Gina Reinschmidt at the Darby Ranger District at 406-821-3913.